

Ten Wycombe men too good for Barking

Sports Mail Special Report

WYCOMBE WAND. 3 : BARKING 1

WITH Len Worley and Paul Bates back in the team after several weeks' absence, Wycombe Wanderers were on top after the first half of their East Anglian Cup second round game at High Wycombe today. Barking opened the scoring, against the run of play, but Wycombe went on to win, despite the fact that Worley was taken ill at half-time and took no further part.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown; Back, D. Worley; Thomas, Fisher, James; Bates, Blair, Hay, Horseman, L. Worley.

Barking: Hemmingway; Smith, Hemmon; Turner, Norman, Moffatt; Evans, Gray, Lakey, Baker, Dalton. Referee: A. Edwards (Gerrards Cross).

In a biting wind and on an iron-hard pitch, Wycombe soon took the initiative and the Barking defence looked uncertain under pressure. It escaped narrowly when a full back, attempting a pass to the goalkeeper, almost put the ball into his own net.

Then a long shot from Fisher tested Hemmingway and a powerful drive by Bates sped only inches wide.

Worley was conspicuous with some sparkling moves on the left wing and Bates was soon wandering in search of opportunities.

But once they had settled down the Barking defence improved and gave little away.

QUICK GOALS

It was against the run of play, however, that Barking took the lead in the 27th minute. LAKEY scored with a well-placed shot after Brown had saved well from Baker.

Three minutes later, as Wycombe hit back with renewed energy, JAMES equalised with a brilliant goal, after good work by Hay.

Towards the end of the half Bates and Worley switched positions, Worley taking over his usual role on the right. The Barking goal came under heavy pressure under a series of strong attacks.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 1, Barking 1.

The Wycombe captain, Len Worley, was taken ill in the dressing room during the interval and was unable to resume in the second half, but with only 10 men Wycombe continued to attack boldly, and ten minutes after the re-start HAY put them ahead with a crisp shot close in from a centre by Bates.

Strong Wycombe appeals for a penalty when Hay was brought down in the area were ignored by the referee, but with Thomas and James prominent at wing half, the home side continued to claim more of the play.

Barking were unable to sustain their counter-attacks long enough to be really dangerous in face of the close covering and quick tackling of the home defence.

FURTHER AHEAD

It was no more than they deserved when, after half an hour of the second half, Wycombe increased their lead.

Centre forward HAY, always on the spot at the right moment, scored with another smart shot, again from a right wing centre by Bates.

Lakey tried hard to get the Barking attack going, but Wycombe's gallant ten were generally quicker on the ball and more accurate in their passing.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3
BARKING 1